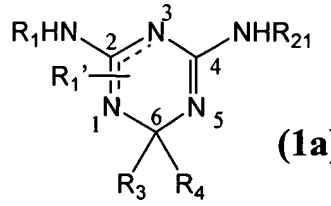
Amendments to the Claims

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) A dihydrotriazine compound represented by the ~~general~~ formula (1a):



(1a)

(wherein R_1 represents ~~(i) a hydrogen atom,~~

~~(ii)~~ (i) a phenyl group or a phenylalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, a nitro group, a cyano group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} haloalkyl group, a C_{3-6} cycloalkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl group, a C_{6-10} aryloxy group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{1-6} haloalkoxy group, a C_{3-6} cycloalkyloxy group, a C_{1-7} alkanoyl group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{2-7} haloalkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{7-11} aryloxycarbonyl group, a C_{4-7} cycloalkyloxycarbonyl group, an amino group, a C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a C_{1-6} haloalkylamino group, di-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a C_{1-7} alkanoylamino group, a cyclic amino group, a C_{2-7} alkylaminocarbonyl group, a mercapto group, a sulfonic acid group, a sulfonamido group, a C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a C_{1-6} haloalkylthio group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl group, a C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyloxy group, a C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonyloxy group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino group, or a C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonylamino group ~~(iii)~~ (ii) a naphthyl group or a naphthylalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by the substituent(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above, ~~(iv)~~ (iii) a heterocyclic group, a heterocyclic alkyl group or a heterocyclic aminoalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by the substituents(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above, ~~(v)~~ (iv) an optionally substituted alkyl group of 1 to 16 carbon atoms, the substituent(s) being the substituent(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above, or ~~(vi)~~ (v) a cycloalkyl group or a cycloalkyl-alkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by the substituent(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above;

~~(a) when R_1 is a hydrogen atom, R_1' represents (i) a phenyl group or a phenylalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted, (ii) a naphthyl group or a naphthylalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted, (iii) a heterocyclic group, a heterocyclic alkyl group or a heterocyclic aminoalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted, (iv) an optionally substituted alkyl group of 1 to 16 carbon atoms,(v) a cycloalkyl group or a cycloalkyl-alkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted, said groups (i) to (v) being substituted at position 1 of the dihydrotriazine ring, or~~

~~(b) when R_1 is other than a hydrogen atom,~~ R_1' represents a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring;

R_{21} represents an optionally substituted alkyl group of 7 to 16 carbon atoms, the substituent(s) being the substituent(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above;

R_3 and R_4 represent that R_3 is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group ~~an optionally substituted alkyl group of 1 to 3 carbon atoms~~, and R_4 is a hydrogen atom or ~~an optionally substituted alkyl group of 1 to 16 carbon atoms, or R_3 and R_4 are taken together with the adjacent carbon atom to form a spirocycloalkane group or an alkyl spirocycloalkane group~~ a methyl group; and

the dashed line indicates that the position of a double bond is either between 1 and 2 or between 2 and 3~~)~~,

or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

19-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously presented) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 18, wherein R_1 is a phenyl group or a phenylalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, hydroxy, methyl, trifluoromethyl and methoxy; R_{21} is n-octyl, n-nonyl or n-decyl; R_3 and R_4 are each methyl; and R_1' is a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring,

or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

22. (Previously presented) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 18, wherein R_1 is a phenyl group, a benzyl group or a 2-phenylethyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, hydroxy, methyl, trifluoromethyl and methoxy; R_{21} is n-octyl, n-nonyl or n-decyl; R_3 and R_4 are each methyl; and R_1' is a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring,
or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

23. (Previously presented) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 18, wherein R_1 is phenyl, chlorophenyl, benzyl, methylbenzyl, methoxybenzyl, hydroxybenzyl, chlorobenzyl, dichlorobenzyl or 2-phenylethyl; R_{21} is n-octyl, n-nonyl or n-decyl; R_3 and R_4 are each methyl; and R_1' is a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring,
or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

24. (Previously presented) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 18, wherein R_1 is methylbenzyl; R_{21} is n-octyl; R_3 and R_4 are each methyl; and R_1' is a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring,
or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

25. (Previously presented) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 18, which is 4-octylamino-3,6-dihydro-6,6-dimethyl-2-(4'-methylbenzylamino)-1,3,5-triazine gluconate,
or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously presented) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 18, wherein R_1 is n-butyl, n-hexyl, n-heptyl or cyclohexylmethyl; R_{21} is n-heptyl or n-octyl; R_3 and R_4 are each methyl; and R_1' is a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring,
or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

28. (Previously presented) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 18, wherein R_1 is a naphthyl group, a heterocyclic group or a heterocyclic alkyl group; R_{21} is n-octyl, n-nonyl, n-decyl, n-undecyl or n-dodecyl; R_3 and R_4 are each methyl; and R_1' is a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring,
or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently amended) An external bactericidal/disinfectant agent which comprises, as an active ingredient, the dihydrotriazine compound as defined in ~~any one of claims 18 to 29~~ claim 18, or a tautomer thereof or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof.

31-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently amended) A sterilizing/disinfecting method, which comprises applying externally an effective amount of the dihydrotriazine compound represented by the ~~general~~ formula ~~(1)~~ (1a) as defined in claim ~~14~~ 18, or a tautomer thereof or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof, to a wound site, a burn site or a bedsore site, or an operation site before and after operation, a hand or an arm of a medical employee, or sterilizing or disinfecting medical equipments or medical environment in need of sterilization/disinfection.

35. (Currently amended) A method for preparation of an external bactericidal/disinfectant agent, which comprises mixing the dihydrotriazine compound represented by the ~~general~~ formula ~~(1)~~ (1a) as defined in claim ~~14~~ 18, or a tautomer thereof or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof together with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

36. (New) An external bactericidal/disinfectant agent, which comprises, as an active ingredient, a dihydrotriazine compound represented by the formula (1a) as defined in claim 18, or a tautomer thereof or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof.